

Senate District E

Mike Walleri, Democrat



DATE OF BIRTH: May 27, 1952

PLACE OF BIRTH: Burley, Idaho

NAME OF SPOUSE: Kathy Hodges

CHILDREN: Bradley Hodges, Jennifer Walleri, Elizabeth Walleri, Michael Walleri, and Heather Walleri

RESIDENCE ADDRESS: 2518 Riverview Drive
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OCCUPATION: Attorney

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY IN ALASKA: 35 years
Fairbanks 1979 to present
Anchorage 1967-1979

EDUCATION:
West Anchorage High, 1970 graduated; University of Portland, 1970-1972; Lewis & Clark College, 1972-1974, Bachelor of Arts International Affairs; University of Hawaii, 1975-1976 (Grad. Studies, Political Science); University of Puget Sound Law, 1976-1979 Juris Doctorate.

POLITICAL AND GOVERNMENT POSITIONS:
U.S. Civil Rights Commission, Alaska State Advisory Committee, 1992 to present; Alaska Municipal Code Revision Taskforce (Technical Committee) 1978-1980;

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:

Staff Attorney/General Counsel, Tanana Chiefs Conference, 1979- 1999; Private Law Practice, 1999 to present.

SERVICE ORGANIZATION(S) MEMBERSHIP:

Rate Payer's Alliance- MUS Sale, Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce, former board member: Presbyterian Hospitality House, Fairbanks Food Bank, North Star Ballet, Weller PTA.

STATEMENT:

The biggest issue facing Alaska is a serious budget gap. I support former Governor Jay Hammond's plan for a diversified tax base and protecting Alaska's Permanent Fund Dividend. I oppose "across the board" budget cuts, like the recent highway maintenance cuts, which disrupt essential services. Cuts, where necessary, should be carefully planned to continue essential services.

District E residents are hard working people trying to make a better life for their children. Education is an important part of that effort. I strongly support our school district and University. Recently, the Legislature has disrupted education programs by using one-year grants to increase education funding. I prefer forward funding and increasing formulas to stabilize education programs. I support the State school board's recommendation to review and revise the poorly planned school-testing program enacted by the current legislature.

I support full funding of revenue sharing and municipal assistance to provide property tax relief. Our current legislature has funded these programs at historical lows, which has increased pressure to raise local taxes or cut essential municipal services like roads, garbage, police and fire. I would work with our city officials to maintain essential services within the Fairbanks tax cap.

When Fairbanks privatized its utilities, we were promised state regulatory oversight to protect consumers from unwarranted rate hikes. I support the recent decision by the Regulatory Commission of Alaska to deny the 15% hike in Fairbanks water and sewer rates, and will oppose efforts to weaken the Commission's ability to protect Fairbanks utility rate payers.

provided and paid for by the candidate